sex distinctions from their retirement package.

Possibly those anthropologists in institutions tied to other types of retirement plans (like that in California) should determine if their plan also makes sex distinctions.

The WSU-CSW has called to my attention another form of sex distinction which may be of interest to many in our roles as professor or student. The Strong Vocational Interest Blanks have some heavily anti-female features. Letters urging the SVIB to remove sex distinctions from their instrument should be sent to David P Campbell, U of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

I would be pleased to hear of other specific and concrete instances of inappropriate sex distinctions so that I may bring them to the attention of the WSU-CSW and their allies across the United States. Address me at Dept of Anth, Wayne State U, Detroit, MI 48202.

Arnold R Pilling
Wayne State University

Combatting Racism and Sexism

Scientific racism and sexism poses a problem to all decent social scientists: how best to combat it. Censorship of various sorts is not effective, and could lend itself to abuse. A better method is needed.

I would like to suggest that in our own journal, when there is occasion to publish research results which are or may be used to support racist or sexist ideology, the editors insert in bold type a warning to the reader that the AAA condemns such use, and a cross-reference to a review in the same issue of the journal. The review should of course refute any anti-scientific inferences which might be drawn from the article.

As for other periodicals which report this kind of anti-social research data, the Association could ask them to publish critical reviews by responsible social scientists, and even provide such reviews by members of the Association. (Should they refuse to publish critical reviews, they should be censured for "deliberate support of racist and sexist pseudo-science," and the censure should be publicized.)

Paul Proulx
Ludlowville, NY

The Why of Anthropology?

Of all the ways to live, of vocations to follow, of "isms" to profess, of "ologies" to hold to, why have we chosen as we have?

Some pretend that it is the science of man [sic] that attracts them, but often more science than man. Words and phrases of models, epistemologies, computer language, statistical razz-ma-tazz and all the rest.

Some pretend that it is in the realms of the mind, in analyses–cum linguistics, cum kinship, cum myths.

Some are most alive among people–in a jungle, on a hillside, isolated on a small Pacific island, standing on a ghetto street, most alive when their senses are alerted by the sights and sounds and smells of the living.

Then, there are those whose fulfillment requires the touch of the shovel or trowel, the sharpness of an arrow's edge, the smoothness of a ceramic piece, the curves of bones, the security of instrumentation and metricness.

Most contemporaneous among us are the highly politicized. But must we adhere to someone else's politics to continue our lives as teachers, fieldworkers and researchers? This we can not do! The profession or calling of anthropology, all embracing and pluralistic, is made up of practitioners of all shapes, sizes and persuasions. It has been thus and must remain thus.

Some in reply to the why of anthropology will refer to fleeting moments of pride. After the admissions of the sins of humanity, we must also point out that beauty, eloquence, harmony, visions and hopes are humanity's products too. And that maybe part of the goal of anthropology is to maximize the occurrences of beauty, eloquence, harmony, visions and hopes, and to minimize the sins.

Milton Jacobs
SUNY C, New Paltz

Information for the Handicapped

In the *Guide to Departments of Anthropology 1971-72* there is no designation whether or not schools are equipped to handle handicapped students and faculty members. This situation is most regrettable. There are palpable concerns in professional anthropology for women's rights, for minority rights, for student rights. It is hard to believe that the science of man, the very champion of humanistic interests, should offer nothing where it could do so much good. By indicating which schools have special provisions for the handicapped, prospective students and faculty members with physical impairments would certainly benefit while anthropology would gain from that much more brain power recruited in the process. But this is not all. It would set an example for other directories and interest groups to follow. This in turn could lead to more and better facilities for the handicapped provided by colleges and universities.

In *Some Colleges and Universities with Special Facilities to Accommodate the Handicapped*, published by HEW in 1967, at least one interesting trend surfaces immediately. Those institutions which are best equipped to handle the handicapped are most often the junior college and the general liberal arts college. This hardly coincides with most anthropology departments

Information on the extent of special facilities can be obtained from the individual college or university's administrative offices

Standards for the construction of facilities for the handicapped are available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 7th and D Sts SW, Washington, DC 20202. Other information may be obtained from the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, DC 20202.

I would like to suggest that a committee be formed to assist handicapped persons who wish to attend annual meetings, in making special arrangements for accommodations, etc, wherever necessary. The unwillingness to act by people who are in a position to act is the most blatant form of social irresponsibility. One would hope for something better from anthropologists.

Jane H Johnson
Buford, Georgia

■ The point on facilities for the handicapped is well made and well taken. There is, however, a limit to what information the *Guide* can collect and include which will be of interest and practical use to the profession and its individual members. Each department listed in the *Guide* pays for its space and, within the format, provides information as it wishes. We impose on the good nature of department professionals and secretaries with each additional request and we find that accurate details involving even departmental data are not always provided. It is unlikely departments could or would give the information Jane H Johnson suggests. Many universities (and museums) now publish informational booklets on facilities for the handicapped. Interested individuals can write to administrative offices for these. Johnson does a service in reminding us that such booklets should be instituted, or enlarged and updated.

Nathalie F S Woodbury
Editor, *Guide*

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